

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/634,230
Reply to Office Action dated May 24, 2006

REMARKS

This Amendment and Response is in reply to the *Ex parte Quayle* Action issued May 24, 2006. In the subject Action, the Examiner noted that claims 1-10 and 12-15 appeared to be allowable with exception of the objections of those claims. Applicant has amended claim 1. Claims 1-10 and 12-15 remain pending in the present application. No new matter has been added. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendments, withdrawal of the pending objections and advancement of this application to allowance.

Specification

The disclosure was objected to because of an informality. In particular, the Office Action states that "[i]t is not clear from the specification how the [metallic] conduction film 20 and the [ink] conduction film 22 differ to allow the selective depression of certain portions of the base material 10." Applicant has amended the Substitute Specification to clarify this confusion. No new matter has been added. Applicant respectfully submits that the objection has been overcome.

Claim Objections

Claims 1-10 and 12-15 were objected to because of various informalities. In particular, the Office Action states that the term "partially printing" in claim 1 is not clear. The Office Action also states that "the lower base material" in claim 1 has no antecedent basis. Applicant thanks the Examiner's careful review.

Applicant has deleted the term "partially" as it was confusing. Applicant has also deleted the term "lower" as it was also confusing. Applicant has clarified that the portion of the base material that is depressed is that portion underneath the ink conduction film. No new matter or issues are raised hereby, with such amendments merely clarifying the claim terms in response to the Examiner's objections.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/634,230
Reply to Office Action dated May 24, 2006

Conclusion

Applicant has amended the Substitute Specification and claim 1 to clarify the above issues. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections.

It is noted that the amendments discussed in this section were not made to overcome art based rejections. Accordingly, such amendments should not be construed in a limiting manner.

This response is believed to be responsive to all points raised in the Office Action. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendments, reconsideration and allowance of all of the currently pending claims. Should the Examiner have any remaining questions or concerns, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned attorney at 612.336.4755 to discuss the same.

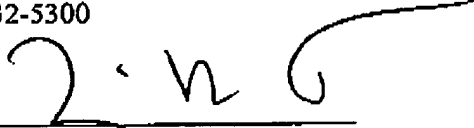
Respectfully submitted,



MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Dated: July 24, 2006

By


Brian H. Batzli
Reg. No. 32,960

BHB:SZ:krm